

PRINTER RUSH

(PTO ASSISTANCE)

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[XRUSH] RESPONSE: Corrected

INITIALS: PS

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REV 10/04

DETERGENT COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING HYDROTROPES**FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to detergent compositions, especially liquid, granular and tablet forms of laundry detergent compositions, that comprise improved hydrotropes, wherein the hydrotropes are organic molecules in which two polar groups are separated from each other by at least 5 aliphatic carbon atoms; liquid compositions that contain such hydrotropes have a viscosity, dilution profile and dissolution behavior that render the product effective and convenient for use as a liquid laundry detergent composition.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In recent years, the popularity of detergent products in forms other than granular/powder has increased. These other forms include liquids and tablets.

Liquid laundry detergent products offer a number of advantages over dry, powdered or particulate laundry detergent products. Liquid laundry detergent products are readily measurable, speedily dissolved in wash water, non-dusting, are capable of being easily applied in concentrated solutions or dispersions to soiled areas on garments to be laundered and usually occupy less storage space than granular products. Additionally, liquid laundry detergents may have incorporated into their formulations materials which would deteriorate in the drying operations employed in the manufacture of particulate or granular laundry detergent products. Because liquid laundry detergents are usually considered to be more convenient to use than granular laundry detergents, they have found substantial favor with consumers.

Despite the advantages of liquid detergent compositions, granular products retain numerous advantages. These advantages include performance, formulation capability, lower-cost packaging and higher product stability. The advantages of product stability and formulation capability are derived in large part from the nature of granular admixtures where components can be individually stabilized and isolated into particles before being admixed with other particles. This physical separation in the final detergent composition allows the use of materials that are potentially unstable in a composition such as bleaches, enzymes, etc.

It is well-known to make detergent compositions in tablet form by compacting a granular detergent composition. Such tablets offer the convenience to consumers of a pre-measured detergent dosage without the inconvenience and untidiness of measuring a sufficient amount of a granular detergent composition for each wash. Such products also offer considerable convenience to those consumers who launder the clothes outside or away from their residence

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This app is a 371 of PCT/US00/21570 5/5/00 which claims benefit of provisional app 60/148,056, 8/10/99 and claims benefit of provisional 60/152,833 9/23/99, which claims benefit of provisional 60/156,335 9/27/99 which claims benefit of provisional 60/157,340 9/27/99 which claims benefit of provisional 60/158,123 3/9/00.

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** CONTINUING DATA ***** This application is a 371 of PCT/US00/21570 08/08/2000 which claims benefit of 60/148,056 08/10/1999 and claims benefit of 60/150,233 08/23/1999 and claims benefit of 60/156,339 09/27/1999 and claims benefit of 60/156,340 09/27/1999 and claims benefit of 60/188,123 03/09/2000				
** FOREIGN APPLICATIONS *****				
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Foreign Priority claimed <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no 35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> Met after met Allowance Verified and Acknowledged		STATE OR COUNTRY BELGIUM	SHEETS DRAWING	TOTAL CLAIMS 17
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